



EXPERIENCES OF MOTHERS HAVING BABIES WITH NEONATAL JAUNDICE

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ABSTRACT

INTRODUCTION: Jaundice is the commonest abnormal physical finding during first week of life. Neonatal jaundice affects 30%-50% of newborn infant in worldwide. The incidence of jaundice is much higher in preterm infants. 80% of preterm babies and 60% of full term babies were having signs of jaundice in their first three days of life. In United State of America, it is reported that more than 60% of all 3.5 million healthy babies admitted in well baby nurseries developed jaundice and diagnosed with increased bilirubin level during their first week of life.. In India neonatal jaundice occur in 60%-65 % of all live births. In Karnataka 55% of newborns suffer with neonatal jaundice.

METHODS: An electronic search of 12 published articles were started on Pub Med, EBSCO, BMC Public Health,. Out of which 8 articles were removed and 4 full text articles were selected on the bases of inclusive criteria of narrative review.

RESULT: All these studies were successful in exploring mother's experiences having their neonates suffering from neonatal jaundice. It includes mother's perception of cause of hyperbilirubinemia, their reactions towards jaundice management, their reaction to the yellow skin, mother's blame, sorrow and doubts regarding the effects of jaundice management.

CONCLUSION: Based on all these studies which included in this narrative review, it is clear that strong error, fault and concerns persist to be a problem for mothers experiencing neonatal jaundice. Instructive programs regarding newborn jaundice and its management through prenatal care guidance and mass media is suggested as an precedence for health system of the nation.

KEYWORDS: mother's experiences. Qualitative study, Neonatal jaundice, Hyperbilirubinemia.

1. INTRODUCTION

Jaundice comes from the French word "Jaune", which means yellow. When it is said that a baby is jaundiced, it simply means that the color of his skin appears yellow. In fair-skinned infants, jaundiced skin may be observed at total serum bilirubin level (TSB) of 5 to 6 mg/dl. Jaundice in the infants appears first on the face and upper body and progress downward towards the toes. Preterm infants are more likely to develop jaundice than full-term babies. The incidence of jaundice in newborns varies between 20 and 80% depending on gestational age and ethnicity. When jaundice is severe, it has the potential of causing brain damage with long term neuro developmental impairment in survivors or death.

Approximately 65% of newborn infants develop clinically evident jaundice in the first week of life. neonatal jaundice is a very common condition worldwide occurring in up to 60% of term and 80% of preterm newborns in the first week of life.

The Journal of Pediatrics reports(2010) a retrospective study, which observed that the incidence of Jaundice is higher in breast-fed babies than in the formula-fed ones. Asian male babies and Native American ones are reported to be most affected by Neonatal Jaundice. They are followed by Caucasian infants who in turn are followed by African Neonates. Babies who are either small or large for gestational age are at an increased risk of developing Neonatal Jaundice.

The focus-group studies from the USA, illustrates the need for provision of more information to parents of newborn babies about jaundice. Mothers expressed a preference for prenatal information and for further information and support to be given at diagnosis and during treatment. Maternal anxiety increased in proportion to the severity of jaundice, but prompt information and reassurance can help to allay this.

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1. Search Strategy methods:

An electronic search of articles published in various journals publication period of 2001 – 2015 was conducted. The papers which were in the English language only. The database search done was Pub Med, EBSCO, DELNET, BMC Public Health. Articles containing following key search terms were retrieved.

2.1.1 Types of Interventions:

None.

2.1.2 Types of Studies:

Qualitative Descriptive Study, Focus Group Discussions (FGDs), Ethnographic Study, Phenomenological Study, Conventional Content Analysis, Qualitative

Content Analysis of the Interviews, Cross- Sectional Study.

2.1.3 Type of Participants:

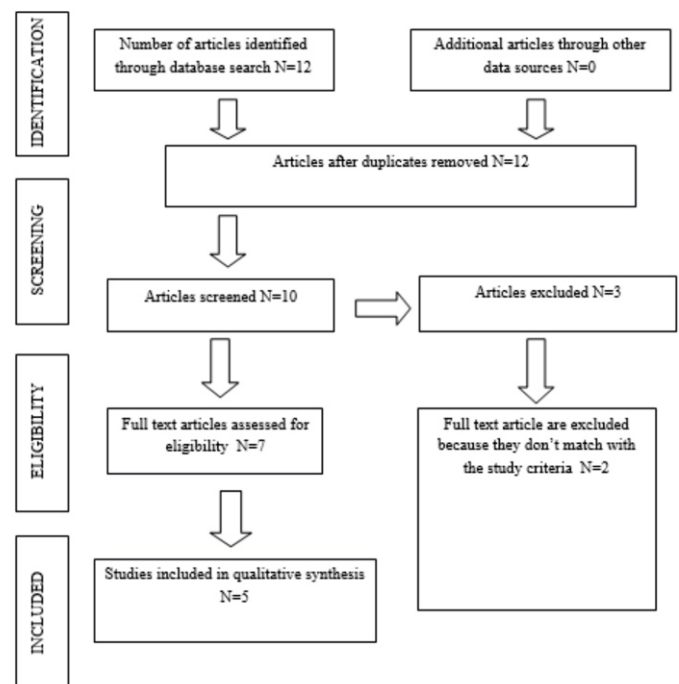
Mothers whose babies were hospitalized with the diagnosed of neonatal jaundice, English-Latin speaking mothers.

2.1.4 Settings:

Hospitals, inpatient and /or outpatient settings.

3. RESULTS:

3.1. PRISMA FLOW CHART



3.2. Table no.1: Data Extraction table

S.no	Title and Authors	Place of research and year	Variables	Tools	Time and duration.	Outcomes	Remarks
1.	The experience of mothers with newborn jaundice: a qualitative study <i>Hosseini ladan, Nikbakht nasrabadi</i>	Tehran University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran 2010	Mother's experiences of neonatal jaundice.	In depth semi-structured interviews.	1 year.	The main themes were challenge between traditional and modern approach to newborn jaundice (with two sub-themes of traditional understanding of disease' nature and challenges in treatment and follow ups) and mothers' concerns for their infants' future.	Mother weren't aware of disease' nature and their traditional approach had caused challenges in treatment of their newborn jaundice
2.	Persistence of maternal concerns surrounding neonatal jaundice: An exploratory study <i>Willis SK, Hannon PR, Scrimshaw SC</i>	Ohic university of medical sciences, Columbus 2001.	Maternal concerns surrounding neonatal jaundice.	Ethnographic interviews using grounded theory methods.	1 year.	Maternal perceptions were exacerbated by cultural differences, language barriers. Interactions with health care professionals and other mothers with personal experience with jaundice were the important mediators in the way mother reacted to information.	Practitioners need to address these persisting misconceptions and concerns about neonatal jaundice with mothers.
3.	Motherly challenges when facing neonatal phototherapy treatment: A descriptive study. <i>Juliana Iasmin de Souza Fernandes, Adriana Teixeira</i>	Child- friendly, federal public hospital, Rio de Janerio. 2015	Motherly challenges facing neonatal phototherapy treatment.	Semi-structured interview	4 months.	The results showed that- three analytical categories were emerged: Mothers' feelings and reactions towards phototherapy treatment; the lack of knowledge when facing a new reality and the healthcare team as a support network for the mothers.	Phototherapy treatment, it makes the mothers feel negative emotions such as anguish, sadness and guilt. The nursing staff must be prepared to hear and guide the mothers throughout phototherapy, taking into consideration that it is a negative experience during the newborn hospitalization.
4.	Lived experience of mothers having an infant with neonatal jaundice. <i>Margaret Brethauer, RNLynn Carey</i>	2010	Lived experiences of mother's having neonatal jaundice	Semi-structured interviews	-	Eight major themes emerged relating to the lived experience: (1) physical and emotional exhaustion, (2) feeling robbed, (3) distressed by infant's physical appearance, (4) loss of control, (5)maternal vigilance, (6) feeling discounted but only for so long, (7) family impact, and (8) supportive environment. Three major themes emerged relating to the mother's educational experience: (1)everyone has a different opinion, and therefore no one really knows for sure; (2) feeling defensive and at fault; and (3) knowing now what I would do differently if I had another baby.	In this study the physical, emotional, and learning needs of the mothers were rarely met. Nurses are the healthcare professionals who have the most contact with new mothers ,and therefore must remain current with the evidence for appropriate care. Much needs to be done to help mothers who have infants with neonatal jaundice.
5.	Mother's experiences of neonatal jaundice: A qualitative study. Masoumeh Mohajer, Roghieh Kharaghani.	Sharhrood University of Medical Sciences, 2014	Mothers experiences of neonatal jaundice.	In-depth Semi-structured interview.	12 months.	Two main themes were as follows: mothers experiences of jaundice crisis and its management and mothers present experiences after crisis of jaundice.	There is a misunderstanding of neonatal jaundice's nature. It also identifies that mothers and grandmothers cultural beliefs and dietary beliefs have an important impact on mothers health-seeking behavior.

RESULTS

Mother weren't aware of disease' nature and their traditional approach had caused challenges in treatment of their newborn jaundice. (Hosseini, Ladan., Nikbakht, A.R. 2010).

Neonatal jaundice continues to concerns mothers, leading to distress, guilt and perceptions that jaundice is a serious condition. Following key factors are identified behind maternal perception of seriousness: unexpectedness of jaundice, a lack of understanding and knowledge about jaundice, often due to cultural differences and language barriers between medical staff and mothers; levels of intervention, and the prolonged duration of jaundice and yellow skin. (Hannon. R., and Willis, S.K. 2001).

Mother report negative feelings about the experience of their infants undergoing phototherapy treatment. The treatment makes these women scared , as they find themselves fragile and insecure position regarding their child's health. The treat-

ment outcome will be the best for their child overcomes the feeling of sorrow that permeate the mother's daily lives(JI desouza. Fernandes., Silva. Cristaine. 2014).

4. DISCUSSION:

This narrative review of the literatures observed that mother's physical and psychological status of postpartum was aggravated in the presence of neonatal jaundice. This situation can contribute to improper decision- making. Mother's and grandmother's cultural and dietary beliefs have an important impact on mother health-seeking behavior. Educational programs about neonatal jaundice and its management through prenatal care consulting and mass media is recommended as an important priority for health system of country.

Mother's of newborn with jaundice suffered from mental and physical exhaustion. Nurses are the healthcare professionals who have the most contact with new mothers ,and therefore must remain current with the evidence for appropriate

care.(Brethauer and Carey's,2010).

Mother's stress and concern lessened by providing them good information about jaundice and its treatment.(Hannon et al, 2002).

There was misunderstanding of disease nature due to cultural beliefs , expect one mother, other were influenced by traditional and dietary beliefs and believed that eating warm food in terms of attribute was the cause of their newborn jaundice.(Hosseini and Nikbakht, 2010)

CONCLUSION

There is a misunderstanding of neonatal jaundice's nature. Psychological effects such as feelings of stress, blame and guilt affecting mothers health status, suggest requirement of psycho-logical support, which should be provided by the treatment team. Therefore, it is important that more emphasis is made on educating mothers on this common but potentially serious condition.

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